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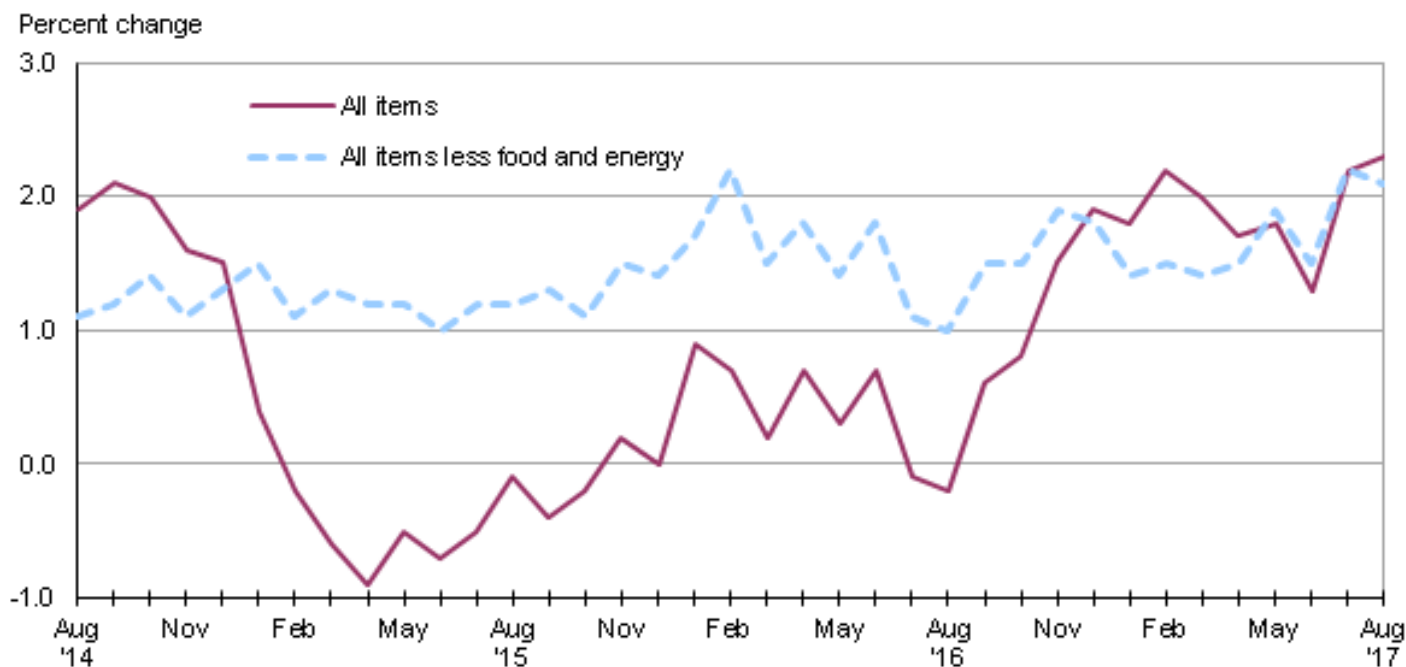
Consumer Price Index, Chicago-Gary-Kenosha — August 2017

Local prices rose 2.3 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Chicago-Gary-Kenosha area rose 0.3 percent in August, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that in August the food and energy indexes increased 0.8 percent and 1.1 percent, respectively. The all items less food and energy index edged up 0.1 percent over the month. Among the indexes within the all items less food and energy category, prices were higher for apparel and education and communication. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the Chicago area all items CPI-U increased 2.3 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) Over the year, the food and energy indexes rose 1.1 percent and 6.9 percent, respectively. The all items less food and energy index was 2.1 percent higher over the year. (See [table 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Chicago, August 2014–August 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 0.8 percent in August. The food at home index (groceries) increased 1.3 percent, while the food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) index was unchanged. Within the food at home group, indexes were higher in August for carbonated drinks, citrus fruits, and potatoes.

From August 2016 to August 2017, the food index increased 1.1 percent. Grocery prices rose 0.8 percent over the year, and food away from home prices rose 1.6 percent from August a year ago.

Energy

The energy index rose 1.1 percent in August, primarily due to a 2.8-percent increase in gasoline prices. Electricity costs rose 0.5 percent over the month. In contrast, utility (pipelined) gas service costs fell 1.8 percent.

Over the year, the Chicago area energy index rose 6.9 percent. From August 2016 to August 2017 gasoline prices rose 7.6 percent. Costs for electricity and utility (pipelined) gas service were up 6.7 percent and 6.1 percent, respectively over the year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy edged up 0.1 percent in August. Among the index's components, prices were higher for apparel (2.5 percent) and education and communication (0.6 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 2.1 percent. Increases in the indexes for shelter (2.3 percent), recreation (10.0 percent), and medical care (5.6 percent) were major contributing factors.

Table A. Chicago CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.2	1.2	0.9	1.2	-0.2	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.8
February.....	1.1	2.3	0.5	0.7	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.7	0.1	2.2
March.....	-0.1	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.7	-0.6	0.1	0.2	-0.1	2.0
April.....	0.0	0.9	0.5	2.4	0.1	-0.9	0.6	0.7	0.4	1.7
May.....	0.5	1.5	-0.1	1.8	0.3	-0.5	0.0	0.3	0.2	1.8
June.....	0.1	1.7	0.4	2.0	0.2	-0.7	0.5	0.7	0.0	1.3
July.....	-0.2	1.7	-0.4	1.9	-0.1	-0.5	-0.8	-0.1	0.0	2.2
August.....	0.1	1.1	0.1	1.9	0.4	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.3	2.3
September.....	-0.2	0.7	0.0	2.1	-0.3	-0.4	0.6	0.6		
October.....	-0.3	0.5	-0.4	2.0	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.8		
November.....	-0.3	0.6	-0.8	1.6	-0.4	0.2	0.2	1.5		
December.....	-0.3	0.5	-0.4	1.5	-0.6	0.0	-0.2	1.9		

The September 2017 Consumer Price Index for Chicago is scheduled to be released on Friday, October 13, 2017.

Consumer Price Index Geographic Revision for 2018

In January 2018, BLS will introduce a new geographic area sample for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). As part of the new sample, the index for this area will be renamed. The first indexes using the new structure will be published in February 2018. Additional information on the geographic revision is available at: www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/geographic-revision-2018.htm.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 28 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **Note: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The **Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.** consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties in Illinois; Lake and Porter Counties in Indiana; and Kenosha County in Wisconsin.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Jun. 2017	Jul. 2017	Aug. 2017	Aug. 2016	Jun. 2017	Jul. 2017
Expenditure category						
All items	233.407	233.514	234.200	2.3	0.3	0.3
All items (1967=100)	697.323	697.641	699.692	-	-	-
Food and beverages	244.107	243.386	245.149	1.2	0.4	0.7
Food	243.753	243.068	244.996	1.1	0.5	0.8
Food at home	233.982	232.826	235.909	0.8	0.8	1.3
Food away from home	252.870	252.940	253.003	1.6	0.1	0.0
Alcoholic beverages	247.590	246.352	245.675	1.7	-0.8	-0.3
Housing	243.536	241.360	241.825	2.2	-0.7	0.2
Shelter	304.455	302.201	302.997	2.3	-0.5	0.3
Rent of primary residence(1)	320.744	321.965	322.751	2.7	0.6	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2)	306.589	307.155	307.579	1.9	0.3	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2)	306.589	307.155	307.579	1.9	0.3	0.1
Fuels and utilities	210.357	209.382	208.785	5.9	-0.7	-0.3
Household energy	167.135	165.919	165.293	6.3	-1.1	-0.4
Energy services(1)	170.522	169.326	168.648	6.4	-1.1	-0.4
Electricity(1)	162.788	162.332	163.078	6.7	0.2	0.5
Utility (piped) gas service(1)	168.160	165.876	162.964	6.1	-3.1	-1.8
Household furnishings and operations	92.662	90.022	90.187	-3.3	-2.7	0.2
Apparel	82.849	86.214	88.344	-1.3	6.6	2.5
Transportation	180.326	180.240	180.249	1.4	0.0	0.0
Private transportation	176.792	177.533	177.959	1.6	0.7	0.2
Motor fuel	213.946	217.704	223.744	7.6	4.6	2.8
Gasoline (all types)	211.791	215.557	221.547	7.6	4.6	2.8
Gasoline, unleaded regular(3)	202.527	206.487	212.454	7.7	4.9	2.9
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(3)(4)	240.896	242.664	248.336	6.9	3.1	2.3
Gasoline, unleaded premium(3)	239.374	242.568	248.044	7.0	3.6	2.3
Medical care	494.011	502.061	502.922	5.6	1.8	0.2
Recreation(5)	112.229	116.208	115.755	10.0	3.1	-0.4
Education and communication(5)	142.530	142.370	143.216	-0.3	0.5	0.6
Other goods and services	384.961	386.977	385.543	0.6	0.2	-0.4
Commodity and service group						
All items	233.407	233.514	234.200	2.3	0.3	0.3
Commodities	164.499	165.247	166.368	0.9	1.1	0.7
Commodities less food & beverages	124.484	125.786	126.594	0.7	1.7	0.6
Nondurables less food & beverages	162.950	167.476	170.015	2.6	4.3	1.5
Durables	88.284	87.182	86.692	-1.9	-1.8	-0.6
Services	298.891	298.359	298.606	3.1	-0.1	0.1
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	222.223	221.980	222.660	2.0	0.2	0.3
All items less shelter	209.434	210.359	211.010	2.3	0.8	0.3
Commodities less food	128.857	130.108	130.887	0.7	1.6	0.6
Nondurables	203.914	205.943	208.132	1.8	2.1	1.1
Nondurables less food	168.481	172.709	175.082	2.5	3.9	1.4
Services less rent of shelter(2)	308.480	309.785	309.448	3.9	0.3	-0.1
Services less medical care services	284.054	283.512	283.734	3.0	-0.1	0.1
Energy	184.973	185.685	187.641	6.9	1.4	1.1
All items less energy	239.913	239.964	240.539	2.0	0.3	0.2
All items less food and energy	240.061	240.247	240.578	2.1	0.2	0.1

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Footnotes(1) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(2) Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

(3) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(4) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(5) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available.

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date. Data not seasonally adjusted.